

Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WO-503

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historical _____

and/or common William James & Elizabeth Gunby Smith House

2. Location

street & number 10347 Doe Drive not for publication _____

city, town Berlin vicinity of x congressional district First

state Maryland 21811 county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Accessible	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u> </u> yes/restricted	<u> </u> military
<u>x</u> building(s)	<u>x</u> private	<u>x</u> yes/unrestrict.	<u> </u> museum
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> site	Status	Present Use	<u>x</u> private res.
<u> </u> object	<u>x</u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> religious
Public	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> scientific
Acquisition	<u> </u> in progress	<u> </u> educational	<u> </u> transport.
<u> </u> in progress		<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> other: _____
<u> </u> being considered		<u> </u> government	
<u>x</u> not applicable		<u> </u> industrial	

4. Owner of Property

name William James & Elizabeth Gunby Smith

street & number 10347 Doe Drive tele. no. _____

city, town Berlin state & zip code MD 21811

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court
- Worcester County Courthouse

street & number West Market Street

city, town Snow Hill state MD zip code 21863

liber FWH 91 folio 76

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title _____

date _____ federal _____ state _____ county _____ local _____

depository for survey records _____

city, town _____ state _____

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7. Description

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Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		(date _____)

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

CONTRIBUTING RESOURCE COUNT: 1

The William James & Elizabeth Gunby Smith House is a detached, single-family dwelling located on the west side of Doe Drive, immediately west of US 113. The resource is situated approximately 250 feet north of Deer Park Road. The two-story, side-gabled building, constructed in ca. 1915, features a roughly symmetrical east facade with three bays. The frame structure is covered with vinyl siding, exhibits a composition asphalt shingle roof, and rests on a mixed foundation of concrete and concrete block partially concealed by plywood and pressed metal imprinted with an ashlar masonry pattern.

The east facade is noted by a one-story porch with a half-hip roof. The porch has been infilled and fitted with paired and triple two-over-two, double-hung sash windows. A multi-light, single-leaf door is located in the central bay of the porch. Windows throughout the rest of the dwelling contain modern one-over-one, double-hung sash with flanking modern fixed shutters. A two-story, gabled wing extends from the south end of the house's rear side. At the west end is a small, one-story shed addition that appears to be later than the rest of the dwelling. Within the angle created by the main block and the rear wing is a one-story shed addition that originally may have been an open porch. This addition features a modern door at the north side, a vertical board door at the west end, and a mixture of two-over-two, double-hung sash and modern six-over-six, double-hung sash windows. The dwelling exhibits a central concrete block chimney at the main roof ridge.

The property contains one outbuilding, a modern gambrel-roofed storage shed to the rear of the dwelling. A grassy drive provides access to and from Doe Drive, and the property features a number of ornamental shrubs.

Alterations to the dwelling include the vinyl siding, the infilling of the front porch, the possible infilling of the rear porch, the later rear shed addition, the modern window sash and shutters, the modern rear door, and the likely loss of historic outbuildings.

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8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance-Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehist.	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-hist.	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> social/humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> music	

<u>Specific Dates</u>	<u>unknown</u>	<u>Builder/Architect</u>	<u>unknown</u>
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check:	Applicable Criteria:	and/or Applicable Exception:	Level of Significance:
	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> E	<input type="checkbox"/> national
	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> F	<input type="checkbox"/> state
	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> G	<input type="checkbox"/> local
	<input type="checkbox"/> D	<input type="checkbox"/> D	

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The William James & Elizabeth Gunby Smith House survives as an example of an early twentieth century vernacular form with antecedents in the nineteenth century. Its presence illustrates the continued development of Worcester County and the immediate locale in the early part of this century, when truck farming was replacing older agricultural models and new fruit and vegetable crops were on the rise (Touart 1994:165-167; Truitt and Les Callette 1977:249, 253-255). Although the property now contains only .33 acres, historically it contained as much as 65.5 acres and likely functioned as a farm (WCCC Deed Book JWS 2:345, JEB 21:563). The small amount of land containing the dwelling appears to have been separated from the larger property in 1956 (WCCC Deed Book FWH 91:76).

The dwelling was constructed in ca. 1915, based on deed records as well as inspection of the building itself, which appears to be of early twentieth century origin. Tax records put the date of construction at 1920 (WCTA 1998). Deed records are unclear as to who may have constructed the dwelling, so the current owners' names have been used to denote the resource. The property was owned by the Showell family between 1887 and 1916 and by the Johnson family between 1916 and 1943 (WCCC Deed Book JWS 2:345, ODC 22:104, JEB 18:214). Thus, either family could have been responsible for the construction of the dwelling.

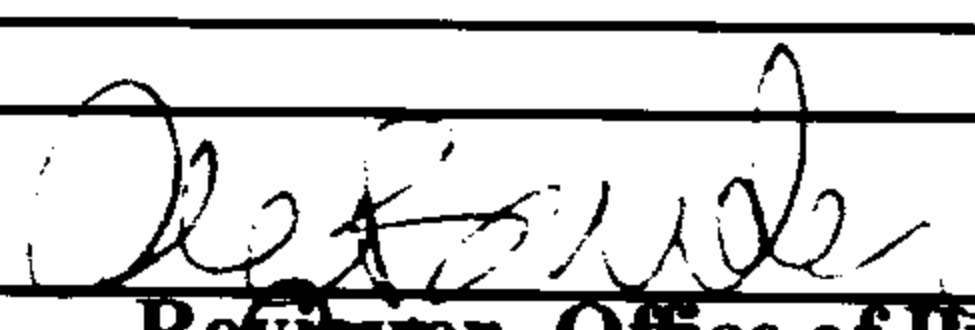
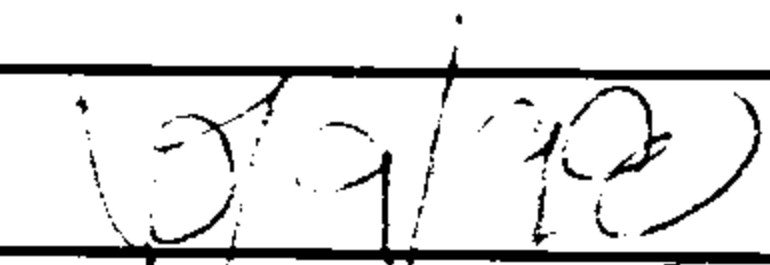
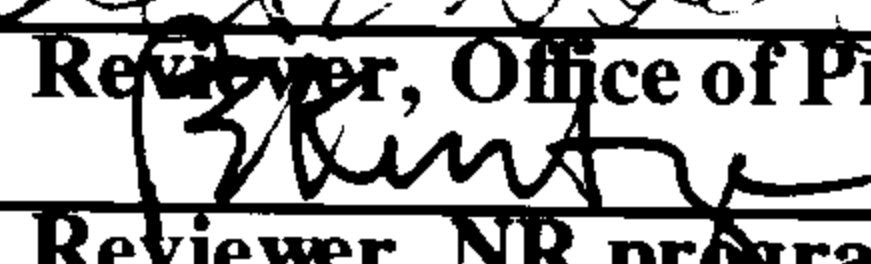
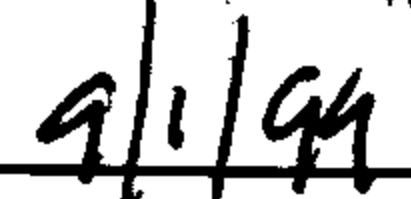
Using the periods from the Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan Data, this would place the resource in the Industrial/Urban Dominance period (A.D. 1870-1930). The current legal tax parcel containing the house and outbuilding encompasses .33 acres.

The William James & Elizabeth Gunby Smith House is recommended ineligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the criteria of eligibility in 36 CFR 60.4. Its integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling has been

See Continuation Sheet.

compromised due to alterations. It has no known associations with significant historical events (Criterion A) or persons (Criterion B), it is not significant for its architectural style or design characteristics (Criterion C), and further research of it would not appear to yield information important in prehistory or history (Criterion D).

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E
	<input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	

 Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services	 Date
 Reviewer, NR program	 Date

Gray

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9. Major Bibliographical References

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See Continuation Sheet.

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10. Geographical Data

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Acreage of nominated property .33 ac.

Quadrangle name Berlin, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References - do not complete UTM references

A
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

Legal Tax Parcel Boundary (Map 20, Parcel 139)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state code county code

state code county code

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11. Form Prepared By

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name/title M. Todd Cleveland, Senior Preservation Planner

organization TRC Garrow Associates Inc. date 9/28/98

street & number 3772 Pleasantdale Rd., Ste. 200 tele. (770)270-1192

city or town Atlanta state GA zip code 30340-4214

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The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCP/DHCD
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
514-7600

Touart, Paul Baker

1994 *Along the Seaboard Side: The Architectural History of Worcester County, Maryland*. Worcester County Commissioners, Snow Hill, Maryland.

Truitt, Reginald V., and Millard G. Les Callette

1977 *Worcester County, Maryland's Arcadia*. Worcester County Historical Society, Snow Hill, Maryland.

Worcester County Clerk of Court (WCCC)

1887-1996 Property records on file at the Worcester County Courthouse, Snow Hill, Maryland.

Worcester County Tax Assessor (WCTA)

1998 Tax assessment records on file at the Worcester County Tax Assessor's Office, Snow Hill, Maryland.

William James & Elizabeth Gunby Smith House
Worcester County, Maryland

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HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

- 1) Eastern Shore

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

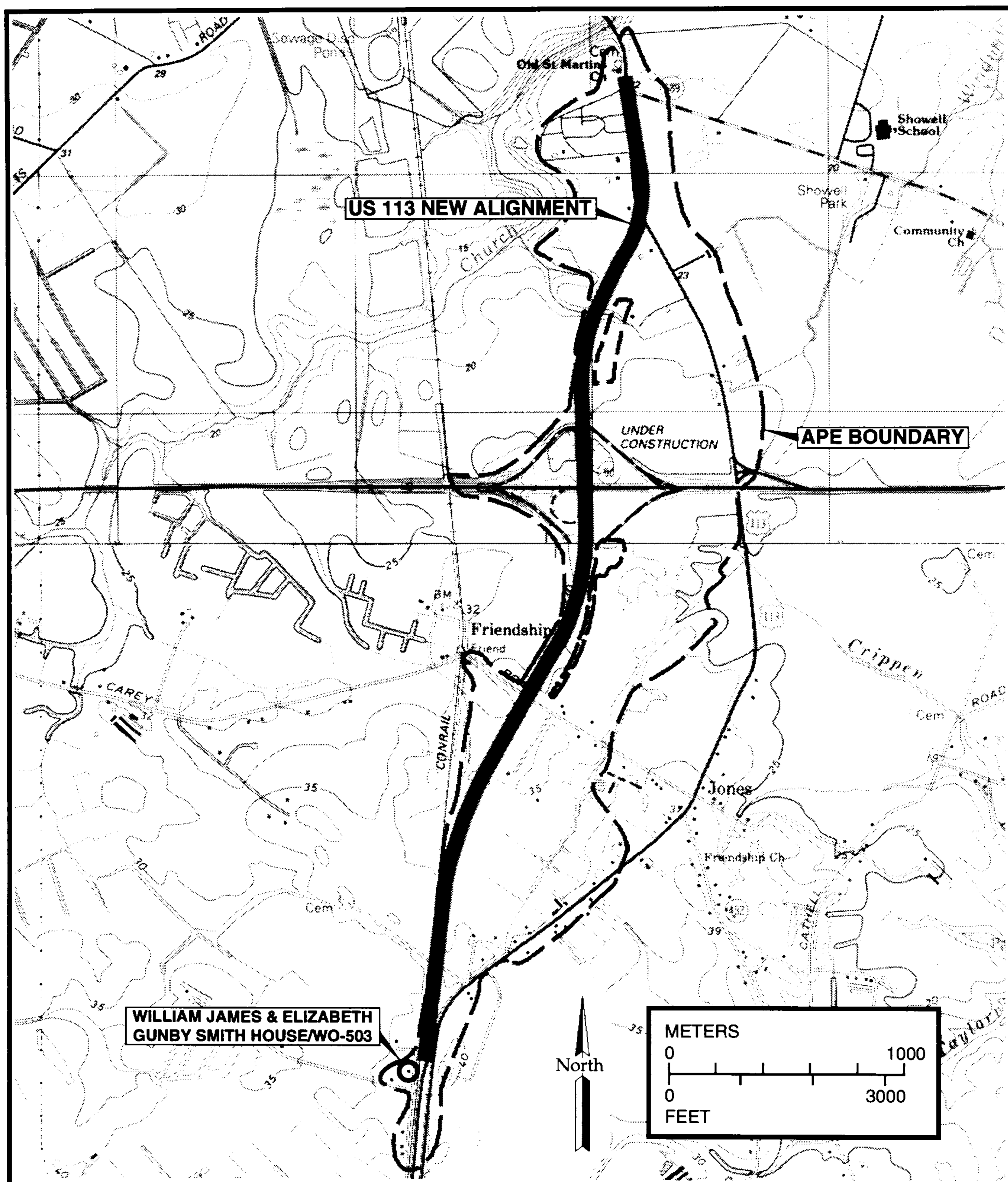
- 11) Industrial/Urban Dominance (A.D. 1870-1930)

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s):

- 2) Architecture

Resource Type:

Category:	Buildings
Historic Environment:	Rural
Historic Function(s) and Use(s):	Single-family Dwelling
Known Design Source:	None



LOCATIONAL MAP

Section of the 7.5' Selbyville, Del.-MD/Berlin, MD Quad Map (USGS 1992/1967-1981)

Showing the William James & Elizabeth Gunby Smith House/WO-503

Worcester County, MD.





William ...
(cousin)

000 2 - 2/2-1 / 1-AN / 1/20Z 699%

Mark Chance ...
Sept. 1927

Maryland ... - negative

...



Wm. 1998

William James & Elizabeth Gentry Smith 1998

000 02-3/1-1 /1-N /1212 699<

Wm. 1998

Black Channel photographs

Sept 1998

Black Channel negative

Wm. 1998

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